

Labor to Make Its Own Inquiry Into Big Banks

Sompers Orders Probe to Ascertain What Is Being Done With Deposits, and Leaders Indorse Move

Method Remains Secret

Statement Charges Funds Are Invested With Foes of Organized Labor

From a Staff Correspondent
ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Aug. 27.—Organized labor decided today to make its own investigation of the big banks and insurance companies of the country, "to ascertain what these institutions are doing with the millions in funds entrusted to their care by wage-earners."

The investigation was ordered by the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, in session here at the Hotel Ambassador, after President Samuel L. Gompers and other presidents of international unions had presented arguments that funds paid to bank and insurance companies by workers were being invested in industries which were foremost in reducing wages, causing widespread unemployment and promoting legislation unfavorable to labor. Corporations charged with denying labor the right to collective bargaining were declared to be especially favored by financial institutions that flourish on the savings deposits of wage earners.

Who is to conduct the investigation for the American Federation of Labor and how data are to be obtained from the banks and insurance companies was not divulged. It was not said whether the identity of the investigators ever would be divulged.

Dictated by Gompers
Virtually, the order for an investigation of financial institutions, together with an analysis of all laws under which corporations operate, was dictated by Mr. Gompers. The president of the largest labor organization in the world occupies a luxurious suite on the ninth floor of the Hotel Ambassador. Flashes of bell-hops and waiters stand ready to satisfy his every whim as, garbed in a palm beach suit, he sits in a commodious arm-chair and gazes on the ocean. All the hotel employees remember that Mr. Gompers a few days ago declared it was no longer proper to be surprised if a workman demanded ice-cream for lunch and an automobile to ride home in.

Therefore, it was no surprise to his secretaries today, when Mr. Gompers gave an order dictating that all the banks and insurance companies of the country should be investigated at once. After he had issued this order it was promptly approved by the other labor leaders, who formed the council.

At the outset Mr. Gompers said he wished to affirm that he had no prejudice against corporations.

"The executive council does not view the granting of corporate charters as the advancement of our financial, commercial and industrial interests as a governmental policy that should be discouraged," said Mr. Gompers.

"To the contrary, it is our firm conviction that much good has come to civilization by the approval of the cooperative principles fundamentally underlying the encouragement of corporate enterprises. Collective enterprise has and does enable gigantic and marvelous undertakings which are inconceivable of accomplishment by individual effort and individual enterprise."

Collective Action Denied
After this preamble Mr. Gompers cited various instances of what he called an abuse of corporate interests toward labor. "The executive council," he said, "views the arrogant attitude and various practice of large corporate industries of denying the wage earners their right to collective action and collective agreements for the sale of their service as unwarranted and unjustified under the corporate charters granted to them by the state. To deny the wage earners the right of group decision and to force them to deal as individuals with organizations of capital of vast magnitude is a perversion, misuse and abuse of corporate power, and never contemplated in the original conception underlying the granting of corporate charters."

"To this end the executive council proposes to give attention to the devising of plans by which the group rights of wage earners may be fully recognized and adequately safeguarded and so that corporate interests may no longer use their organized power to deny right to organizations and collective power to the wage earners."

"The executive council further proposes to investigate the methods used by the banking institutions and insurance companies in the handling of funds entrusted to their care for investment and safekeeping by the wage earners of our country. It intends that the savings of the workers shall no longer be used to deprive them of their constitutional and economic rights and opportunities."

Stories circulating today that the American Federation of Labor intended to establish a system of moving picture shows and newspapers and to lay the foundation for a national political party were denied by Mr. Gompers.

K. of C. Invests 10 Million In Government Securities
Ten million dollars has been invested by the Knights of Columbus in United States Liberty Loan and Treasury certificates, according to an announcement of the supreme treasurer, issued at a meeting of the Knights of Columbus National Finance Committee here yesterday.

The investment is divided into 40 per cent for Liberty Bonds, and 60 per cent for the Treasury certificates. Subordinate councils have been urged by the Supreme Council to favor government securities for investment.

Marine Corps
From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Marine Corps today (Sunday) left for the United States. He is the only one of the Marine Corps to be promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He is the only one of the Marine Corps to be promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He is the only one of the Marine Corps to be promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

McCarthy Resigns as U. S. Marshal, Effective Nov. 1

W. C. Hecht Is Reported as Slated for Southern District Place

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—The resignation of Thomas D. McCarthy, United States Marshal for the Southern District of New York, has been accepted by Attorney General Daugherty, effective November 1. The action was taken after a conference here between the Attorney General and Mr. McCarthy, who is a Democrat appointed under the Wilson Administration. Mr. Daugherty said today that no successor had been selected.

William C. Hecht, former Receiver of Taxes when William A. Prendergast was Comptroller, and a former Deputy United States Marshal under the late Marshal William A. Henkel, is slated for the post made vacant by the resignation of Marshal McCarthy. It was said in well informed circles yesterday. Mr. Hecht has been active in Republican organization politics for many years. He is sponsored by United States Senator Culler, Charles D. Hiles, national committeeman; George A. Clynch, state chairman, and Samuel S. Koenig, president of the county committee.

Miners' Army Broken Up; Men On Way Home

Federal and State Authorities Agreed All Danger of an Armed Invasion of the Mingo Field Is Past

No Trouble at Blair

Reports of Clash Between Sheriff's Deputies and Marchers Are Unfounded

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Aug. 27.—State and Federal authorities were a unit tonight in declaring that the march of miners from Marmot to Mingo County as a protest against Governor Morgan's martial law had come to an end and hundreds of the men were already back in their home towns.

Brigadier General H. H. Bandholtz, who came here from Washington to investigate conditions for the War Department in answer to Governor Morgan's request for Federal troops, drove from Charleston to Racine over the line of march taken by the miners earlier in the week and expressed himself as being convinced that "the jig is up." He addressed a party of miners at Racine, who were waiting for a train to take them home, and after further investigation along the line returned to Charleston to prepare his report for the Washington authorities.

All Quiet at Logan
Much confusion was occasioned during the afternoon by reports from Williamson, Mingo County, and Welch, McDowell County, that Sheriff Don Chaffin, of Logan County, had sent out a hurried call for assistance, and that forces of the state police and deputies had been hurried to Logan by automobile.

As all information reaching government sources from Logan County was to the effect that the situation there was quiet, this movement of reinforcements was not explained until it became known in Welch, after Sheriff Hatfield and his men had departed from Logan, that the march had been broken up and the men were on their way home.

The movement of the state police from Williamson was explained by the fact that fears were felt in some quarters that stragglers from the now disbanded "army" might remain in Boone County and the presence of the force might be needed there to help Sheriff Hill and his three or four deputies to clear up the situation.

The one point in the mining country which has been the source of much anxiety for officials because of its position along the Boone-Logan border was Blair. The miners there are organized and reports have come on two successive nights that fighting was in progress between them and the Logan County authorities.

Communication Cut Off
Correspondents with the marching miners were unable to get to Blair from Madison, while Sheriff Chaffin refused any information concerning events in that section. All wire communications have been cut off for several days, and some apprehension was felt that the real center of the trouble was at Blair.

This point was cleared up late today when Sheriff Hill of Boone County succeeded in getting into communication with the town. He was informed that there had been no disorders of any kind.

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The army officer in messages to the War Department and to the Executive reported that indications pointed to a settlement without the necessity of Federal intervention.

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TORONTO, Aug. 27.—Lord Byng of Vimy, Governor General of Canada, today reviewed marching columns of demobilized soldiers who fought under his command in France. With Lady Byng he made his first official visit to Toronto to open the annual Canadian national exhibition. This was "warrior's day" at the exhibition.

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Five Simultaneous Fires Break Out In Long Branch

West End District Saved by Volunteer Fighters, Two of Whom Are Injured; Chief Tells of Kerosene

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Aug. 27.—Fire, believed in certain quarters to be of incendiary origin, which started simultaneously in five different buildings early this morning, covered parts of two blocks here and destroyed among other buildings the West End station of the New York and Long Branch Railroad and the West End primary high school. The blaze caused damages estimated at \$75,000. The entire West End section was saved, however, by the quick action of the volunteer fire companies, two members of which were injured in fighting the fire.

When the fire companies which responded to the first alarm reached the scene the fire was blazing in an automobile manufacturing establishment and the residence of Mrs. Floz. Pater. A second alarm was turned in at once, but before another company arrived the railroad station burst into flames from within. From the station the flames spread to the school and a building in the course of construction.

All the buildings which had caught were destroyed and the firemen confined themselves to preventing the flames from spreading.

Two members of the volunteer fire company, Charles O'Keefe and James Warner, were seriously injured when the roof of the railroad station fell in. They were taken to the Monmouth Memorial Hospital.

Fire Chief Frank Griffith, of the Long Branch Fire Department, said that the fire apparently was of incendiary origin.

"Burlap and excelsior saturated with kerosene were found both inside and outside the burned barn and in other places," he said. "Kerosene had been sprinkled on the floors and side walls of the buildings."

This does not coincide with the views of the police department. Lieutenant Joseph E. McGarvey said that he had discovered nothing to prove incendiarism.

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